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NEW YORK SUN ON SUGAR TARIFF

The first of this week the Ways and Means Committee of the House will hear the arguments of those who are interested in a revision of the tariff on sugar. There have been marked changes in conditions, but there is no reason to expect any change in the arguments. It will doubtless be the old battle over again.

Our sugar consumption is now approximately 3,000,000 tons a year, an increase of 1,000,000 tons since the Dingley tariff went into effect. Including the uses of the commodity for all purposes, industrial and domestic, a total of not far from \$400,000,000 a year is a reasonable estimate of the sugar bill of the American people. A liberal valuation of the cost of production plus the freight from Cuba, Porto Rico, Hawaii, Java and other points of supply, and plus an additional allowance for planter's profits, would be in the neighborhood of \$150,000,000. The remaining \$250,000,000 is accounted for broadly by the cost and profits of refining, by the customs revenues and by the financial benefits accruing to producers of American cane and beet sugar, whether in this country or in Porto Rico or Hawaii. There should also be included the cost of handling and distribution and the profits of dealers.

The consumption of 1898, about 2,000,000 tons, was represented by about 72.3 per cent of imported sugar subject to duty and about 27.7 per cent of domestic product. A material change has been made in these percentages by the increase in Hawaiian output, the free admission of sugar from Porto Rico, and the development of the domestic beet industry. The duty free supply of 1907 amounted to about 42 per cent of the total. The leading contestants in the struggle for high duties on sugar are the producers of beet sugar. For more than ten years they have asserted that the American beet would almost immediately supply all the sugar required in the American market and there have been prophecies that this country would soon become an exporter of the commodity.

PRESCOTTIANA

Entertainment given by the pupils of the Convent of the Sacred Hearts in honor of Rev. Mother Judith, December 5, 1908.

1. Entree: Le Macon.....Auber
Violins Misses M. Vredenburg, J. Franks, E. McCandless, P. Kekumano, A. Goo Hoy, T. Betters, S. Driscoll, M. Hobron.

Piano, Miss E. Levey.

2. Gertrude Mason, M. D., a farce in one Act.

3. Home, Sweet Home.....Foster
Violin, Miss E. Li. Accompanist Miss M. Li.

4. Romance.....Berthold Tours
Misses M. Cowan, A. Pereira, M. Kopa, M. Brown.

5. Parol Drill: Ten Little Girls.
Song, Address.

The first number offered was a farce, the young ladies being dead-letter perfect in their lines, which is a great deal to say. And they really had a good many lines to say.

The sisters Li, that were rousing good with piano and violin, and called forth an encore in hot haste, are only two tiny Chinese maidens knee high to a piano stool. Do they keep on for a few years with their chosen instruments, the Honolulu world will know and listen to more of their work!

The parol parade was a dainty treat.

Here, we had to leave.

HITCHCOCK.

The Barking Sands of Kauai is a magnificent picture. It represents the atmosphere, the sky and cloud effects, the surf and shore, more faithfully (more realistic) than any other painter's work of these islands has ever succeeded in bringing to pass.

He literally, Mr. Hitchcock, "feels" the colors on his palette and finds the true place for them on his canvas, be it Kauai or Hawaii, Maui or Waikiki. No one can succeed as he succeeds.

And so long as we can hold a pencil we will speak of merit (genius) as it deserves to be spoken of, by every one. Mr. Hitchcock has a right to be proud of his super-elegant hard work of years and patience, and to be grateful to God for his marvelous brush, of this Paradise of the Pacific, for none can quite equal his.

EDITOR TIMES.

December 5, 1908.

A COMPLAINT.

On going up Nuuanu Avenue Sunday morning, when near the terminus we saw a large auto pass our car, going up the hill and, at the same moment, one drove in sight coming down the hill. There was a Chinaman, a laborer, directly in front of the latter said to the motorman, "Why, he was ing up, could not hear the one coming down. We motioned to him and said to the motorman, 'why, he was almost struck!' 'They did not sound the horn—did not sound the horn!'"

No indeed, they did not offer to sound the horn or even "sing out." As, to our mind, it was a Shabby One, with four men in it and likely a back Very often, in these back autos more

The industry has grown from an output of about 40,000 tons in 1898 to about 450,000 tons. This quantity not only fails to supply our total demand, it does not even keep pace with the increase in consumption.

Using the fact as a statement and not as an argument for lower tariff, it may be said that the beet industry, important though it may be, costs the American people about \$100,000,000 a year. One-half of the sum goes to the Treasury of the United States in the form of duties on imported sugar, and the remainder goes to the producers of beet sugar in the West and to the growers of cane in Louisiana, Hawaii and Porto Rico. It is more than probable that only the aggressive activity and the stubborn opposition of the beet sugar companies prevent a material reduction in sugar duties and sugar prices.

The fact that our total consumption has increased 50 per cent in ten years, and the further fact of about a 33 per cent increase in consumption per capita, may be regarded as indications that the present price of sugar is no heavy economic burden, but if any change is made in rates the movement should be downward. Our relations with Cuba are an important factor in the situation. About three-quarters of our duty paid supply comes from that island. Any change that affected Cuba adversely might and probably would serve only to bring about a repetition of earlier conditions there when economic distress was the provoking cause of political disorder. Another disturbance in the island would lead to a third and doubtless permanent occupation, with annexation as the undesirable but inevitable outcome. The advocates of an extreme protection for domestic sugars, whether cane or beet, will show wisdom by keeping clearly in mind the importance to them of a proper regard for Cuban interests and the desirability of the greatest possible liberality toward the Cuban industry. A disregard of these factors may easily result in disaster to American sugar interests.—New York Sun.

especially, men are inebriated and "don't know whether they are afoot or a horseback." They hire an auto to give zest to their spree and the driver seems to humor them, in order to make money.

This reminds us also that the other day on Beretania near Piikoi, we saw an auto going, literally like the wind, and we said we had never witnessed a worse sight on a public street—perfectly shameless and shameful. "Going like the d—!" Yes, we fear that is the one that will mow some of them in, unless there be a law, to fit their death-dealing machines, for (some) men have lost their reason, in this regard.

EDITOR TIMES.

Sunday, Dec. 6.

Fine Job Printing, Star Office.

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